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## CENSUS OF ABORIGINALS AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS IN QUEENSLAND.

### 30TH JUNE, 1940.

The Government Statistician with the co-operation of the Director of Native Affairs, District Protectors of Aboriginals, Superintendents of Settlements, Reserves and Missions, also the Protector of Islanders, has completed the Annual Census of Aboriginals and of Torres Strait Islanders in Queensland as at 30th June, 1940.

CHANGES IN NUMBERS. At 30th June, 1940 the population of Aboriginals in the State was 15,149, of whom 8,985 (5,113 males and 3,872 females) were full-bloods, and 6,164 (3,141 males and 3,023 females) were half-castes. The full blood population comprised 6,960 adults and 2,025 children (persons under 12 years of age) and the half-caste population 3,305 adults and 2,859 children. Compared with the previous year there were 3,045 full-bloods and 614 half-castes fewer than the total number of aboriginals recorded at 30th June, 1939. This apparent large decrease in the aboriginal population at 30th June, 1940 is due mainly to the omission of Torres Strait Islanders, who by virtue of the provisions of the Torres Strait Islanders Act of 1939, are in a different category from Aboriginals. The number of Islanders as revealed by the 1940 Census was 3,508 (1,796 males and 1,712 females), of whom 2,225 were adults (1,174 males and 1,051 females) and 1,283 were children (622 males and 661 females).

SUPERVISION. The number of full-blood aboriginals under the control of the various authorities was as follows, figures for the previous year being shown in brackets :- Government Settlements, 1,659 (1,648); Government Protectors, 3,959 (7,109); Missions, 3,356 (3,263); and Government Reserve at Myora, 11 (10). Half-castes under the supervision of Government Settlements were 1,536 (1,526); of Government Protectors 3,592 (3,984); of Missions 1,017 (1,248) and of Myora Government Reserve 19 (20). All Torres Strait Islanders were under the control of the Protector of Islanders.

OCCUPATION.

(i). In Regular Employment. At 30th June, 1940 the number of full-blood aboriginals in regular employment was 3,143, equivalent to 45.2 per cent. of adults, compared with 42.2 per cent. at 30th June, 1939. Full-bloods in employment consisted of 2,440 males and 703 females and of these 1,785 (1,394 males and 391 females) lived in Supervised Camps. Half-castes in employment numbered 1,705 (1,199 males and 506 females) or 51.6 per cent. of adults. 731 employed half-castes lived in Supervised Camps.

There were 771 Torres Strait Islanders in employment at the date of the census, 697 males and 74 females, and all of these were in Supervised Camps.

(ii). Nomadic. The number of aboriginals returned as "nomads" was 1,586. Of these 1,486 (790 males and 696 females) were full-bloods and 100 (44 males, 56 females) were half-castes. The full-bloods consisted of 1,288 adults and 198 children. Compared with the year 1939 there was a decrease of 58 full-bloods and an increase of 2 half-castes.

(iii). Of the remainder of the aboriginal population - 4,356 full-bloods and 4,359 half-castes - 4,627 were children, of whom 1,827 were full-bloods and 2,800 half-castes. The balance, 4,088 persons comprised 1,478 males and 2,610 females and consisted of aged dependants of aboriginals and those who were not working under Government Agreement. These are mainly engaged in ringbarking, kangaroo shooting, trapping and other types of rural occupation, also tin mining, and cane cutting during the season.

COLIN CLARK,
GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN.

GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN'S OFFICE,
BRISBANE.

20th January, 1941.

TABLE 1. - ABORIGINAL POPULATION - TEN YEARS.

| AT 30th JUNE | FULL-BLOODS | | | HALF-CASTES | | | TOTAL FULL-BLOODS AND HALF-CASTES |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Males | Females | Total | Males | Females | Total | |
| 1931 .. | 7,786 | 5,868 | 13,654 | 2,096 | 1,956 | 4,052 | 17,706 |
| 1932 .. | 7,599 | 5,773 | 13,372 | 2,123 | 1,945 | 4,068 | 17,409 |
| 1933 .. | 7,073 | 5,459 | 12,532 | 2,292 | 2,133 | 4,425 | 16,957 |
| 1934 .. | 6,997 | 5,309 | 12,306 | 2,508 | 2,408 | 4,916 | 17,222 |
| 1935 .. | 6,888 | 5,182 | 12,070 | 2,807 | 2,618 | 5,425 | 17,495 |
| 1936 .. | 6,992 | 5,345 | 12,337 | 2,917 | 2,868 | 5,785 | 18,122 |
| 1937 .. | 6,742 | 5,370 | 12,112 | 2,972 | 2,940 | 5,912 | 18,024 |
| 1938 .. | 6,761 | 5,399 | 12,160 | 3,319 | 3,142 | 6,461 | 18,621 |
| 1939 .. | 6,685 | 5,345 | 12,030 | 3,469 | 3,309 | 6,778 | 18,808 |
| 1940 .. | 5,113 | 3,872 | 8,985 | 3,141 | 3,023 | 6,164 | 15,149 |

TABLE 2. - ABORIGINAL POPULATION (ADULTS AND CHILDREN) AT 30TH JUNE, 1939 AND 1940.

| PARTICULARS | 1939 | | 1940 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Adults | Children | Adults | Children |
| FULL-BLOODS: | | | | |
| Nomadic .. .. | 1,305 | 239 | 1,288 | 198 |
| In Supervised Camps - | | | | |
| In regular employment .. | 2,461 | - | 1,785 | - |
| Not in regular employment .. | 3,262 | 2,417 | 2,090 | 1,377 |
| Others - | | | | |
| In regular employment .. | 1,289 | - | 1,358 | - |
| Not in regular employment .. | 568 | 489 | 439 | 450 |
| Total: | 8,885 | 3,145 | 6,960 | 2,025 |
| HALF-CASTES: | | | | |
| Nomadic .. .. | 53 | 45 | 41 | 59 |
| In Supervised Camps - | | | | |
| In regular employment .. | 1,170 | - | 731 | - |
| Not in regular employment .. | 581 | 1,534 | 671 | 1,279 |
| Others - | | | | |
| In regular employment .. | 918 | - | 974 | - |
| Not in regular employment .. | 1,002 | 1,475 | 888 | 1,521 |
| Total: | 3,724 | 3,054 | 3,305 | 2,859 |
| GRAND TOTAL PERSONS: | 18,808 | | 15,149 | |
| Percentage Nomadic to Total: | 8.7 | | 10.5 | |

TABLE 3 - ABORIGINAL POPULATION (MALES AND FEMALES) AT 30TH JUNE, 1940.

| PARTICULARS | UNDER CONTROL OF - | | | | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Government Settlements | Government Reserves a. | District Government Protectors | Missions | |
| FULL-BLOODS: | | | | | |
| In Supervised Camps - | | | | | |
| In Regular Employment | 685 | 1 | 375 | 724 | 1,785 |
| Others .. | 922 | 10 | 841 | 1,694 | 3,467 |
| Not in Supervised Camps - | | | | | |
| In Regular Employment | 48 | - | 1,306 | 4 | 1,358 |
| Nomadic .. | - | - | 575 | 911 | 1,486 |
| Others .. | 4 | - | 862 | 23 | 889 |
| Total Full-Bloods | | | | | |
| Males .. | 986 | 2 | 2,404 | 1,721 | 5,113 |
| Females .. | 673 | 9 | 1,555 | 1,635 | 3,872 |
| Persons .. | 1,659 | 11 | 3,959 | 3,356 | 8,985 |
| HALF-CASTES: | | | | | |
| In Supervised Camps - | | | | | |
| In Regular Employment | 404 | 6 | 49 | 272 | 731 |
| Others .. | 1,081 | 13 | 166 | 690 | 1,950 |
| Not in Supervised Camps - | | | | | |
| In Regular Employment | 42 | - | 913 | 19 | 974 |
| Nomadic .. | - | - | 100 | - | 100 |
| Others .. | 9 | - | 2,364 | 36 | 2,409 |
| Total Half-Castes - | | | | | |
| Males .. | 760 | 8 | 1,891 | 482 | 3,141 |
| Females .. | 776 | 11 | 1,701 | 535 | 3,023 |
| Persons .. | 1,536 | 19 | 3,592 | 1,017 | 6,164 |
| GRAND TOTAL FULL-BLOODS AND HALF-CASTES: | 3,195 | 30 | 7,551 | 4,373 | 15,149 |

a. Government Reserve, with Resident Superintendent.

TABLE 4 - POPULATION OF TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS AT 30TH JUNE, 1940.

| UNDER CONTROL OF PROTECTOR OF ISLANDERS | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PARTICULARS | Adults | | Children | | TOTAL |
| | Males | Females | Males | Females | |
| Nomadic | - | - | - | - | - |
| In Supervised Camps - | | | | | |
| In Regular Employment | 697 | 74 | - | - | 771 |
| Others .. | 474 | 970 | 622 | 661 | 2,727 |
| Not in Supervised Camps - | | | | | |
| In Regular Employment | - | - | - | - | - |
| Others .. | 3 | 7 | - | - | 10 |
| Total Islanders - | | | | | |
| Males .. | 1,174 | - | 622 | - | 1,796 |
| Females .. | - | 1,051 | - | 661 | 1,712 |
| Persons .. | 2,225 | | 1,283 | | 3,508 |

TABLE 5 - TOTALS FOR TEN YEARS.

| YEAR | ABORIGINALS | | | | | TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Control of - | | | | Total | |
| | Government Settlements | Government Reserves a. | District Government Protectors | Missions | | |
| 1931 .. | 2,309 | b. | 11,800 | 3,597 | 17,706 | c. |
| 1932 .. | 2,338 | | 11,436 | 3,635 | 17,409 | |
| 1933 .. | 2,471 | | 10,706 | 3,780 | 16,957 | |
| 1934 .. | 2,643 | | 10,920 | 3,659 | 17,222 | |
| 1935 .. | 2,737 | | 10,832 | 3,926 | 17,495 | |
| 1936 .. | 2,830 | | 11,080 | 4,212 | 18,122 | |
| 1937 .. | 2,883 | | 10,858 | 4,283 | 18,024 | |
| 1938 .. | 2,982 | 37 | 11,096 | 4,506 | 18,621 | |
| 1939 .. | 3,174 | 30 | 11,093 | 4,511 | 18,808 | |
| 1940 .. | 3,195 | 30 | 7,551 | 4,373 | 15,149 | 3,508 |

a. Government Reserve, with Resident Superintendent.

b. Previously included in Missions Total.

c. Previously included with total under District Government Protectors.